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# The QUILL



JULY, 1917

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## He Knew—and Knew He Knew



*Courtesy of the Editor and Publisher*

John R. Rathom.

**W**HEN the United States began handing passports to objectionable diplomats and military attaches, they paused in the packing of their suitcases only long enough to heap vituperation upon The Providence Journal. John R. Rathom and his paper were denounced as fabricators of the most vicious type. A teacher of journalism asked Mr. Rathom what his answer was. He serenely pointed to the notable past of The Journal, and rested his case. Now at last the story of the journalistic enterprise and acumen that made the Providence Journal the most talked of paper in the United States is told in this issue. In part it follows the form in which it appeared in The Editor and Publisher.

# THE QUILL

A Journalists' Journal

VOLUME V

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## Outspying the Spy

Quick Wit and Perseverance of Providence Journal Staff  
Bare Teutonic Duplicity

By Carl H. Getz

(Washington), News Editor, The Editor and Publisher

WHAT an enterprising editor of a resourceful newspaper can do with a staff of capable reporters was probably never better demonstrated than by John R. Rathom, editor and general manager of the Providence Journal, in exposing German intrigue in the United States.

Even reporters pictured by motion picture scenario writers never did anything more thrilling than did the Journal men, who followed every move made by the principals in the German conspiracies. One reporter actually served as secretary to German Ambassador von Bernstorff. Fourteen others succeeded in getting confidential positions in the German and Austrian embassies.

The Journal happened upon its plan of exposure through having had, for ten years before the war, wireless telegraphy for a hobby. The newspaper had maintained two powerful wireless plants at Point Judith, R. I., and Block Island, R. I. When war broke Journal employees decided to listen in on messages crossing the Atlantic. For five months a record of these messages was kept. Then a search for codes were started, and later amazing revelations followed. Of the vast amount of material the Journal obtained only a small part was ever used.

One of Mr. Rathom's workers was engaged in shadowing Captain Boy-Ed; another watched Captain von Papen and former Austrian Ambassador Dumba; others trailed von Bernstorff and lesser German and Austrian officials. The two wireless plants unceasingly listened in—two shifts of operators at work day and night at Sayville, N. Y., and at Nantucket, R. I., the two wireless stations which were used mostly by the Germans to keep in touch with Berlin, whence they received instructions for every detail of their plotting policy.

Federal government officials had instructed officers at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to keep a close watch on the Sayville and Nantucket stations, but nothing suspicious was ever reported until Mr. Rathom took some of his messages which he had received from his operators to the State Department. It was then that it was learned that the navy yard operators had been in the pay of German agents in America, and had been told not to hear too much.

The codes used by the Germans were

of the most ingenious nature. Many messages were supposed to be stock quotations, and some were even done up as funeral directions. On one occasion Mr. Rathom was able to go to President Wilson and show him copies of eight separate messages sent by the wireless plant within nine days, all relating that "little Emily" had died of such and such an illness, in a certain part of a room, had been buried in a certain cemetery beside such and such a previously deceased relative. In every one of these messages the illness, the part of the room, the name of the relative, the cemetery, and other details varied, and a clear code was detected in each of the messages.

Mr. Rathom has revealed the German capacity for blundering. Take, for example, the story of Werner Horne—the man who was responsible for the attempt to blow up the Vanceboro Bridge. Horne had been detected as a German spy by one of the Journal reporters in New York. In an effort to disguise himself Horne allowed his beard to grow for three days, put on an old suit, which he purchased for three dollars (even this detail was reported), and packed his personal effects in an old carpet bag. Having carried out these elaborate precautions, he took passage for the point where the "job" was to be done on one of the finest and most luxurious trains in the United States. As is well known now, he was caught. When asked later by Mr. Rathom why he had been foolish enough to travel first class in such shabby dress, Horne replied that he was a German officer and a gentleman, and always traveled in the best style.

Another German scheme in which the Journal reporters outwitted the Teutons occurred soon after in New York also. A fraudulent passport bureau, operated by German officials, was discovered doing a tremendous business in an office building on Broadway. The Journal men—faking as a public accountant on the one side and a manufacturers' agent on the other—sandwiched the passport forgers between them. Every word that passed in this office was recorded by means of the instruments used for that purpose, and reported to the Providence Journal. When sufficient evidence was gathered the United States Secret Service was notified, and the three forgers were taken away. As soon as they had been removed

three of the Journal's employees were allowed to take charge of the office to receive the patrons. It was not long after that Von Papen and the German military attache at Tokio came in with a list of names of men for whom they desired passports. The name at the top of the list was that of Werner Horne.

"A friend of mine," said Mr. Rathom, "thinking himself very friendly, but in a thing which I objected to, went to Paris and while there bought a lot of war relics. Among them was one of the first iron crosses that had been given by the German Emperor to a major of a German regiment who died on the field and whose cross had been taken from him and sent to Paris. It was sold to my friend, with statements as to whom it had belonged, and my friend sent it to me. I sent it to von Bernstorff with a letter saying that that mark of honorable distinction of a man who had done his duty for his country belonged to his family; I gave the name of the man and the name of the family, and begged him to take care of the cross so that it could be sent back after the war or at some time to the man's people.

"The Ambassador tore the note to pieces, threw it in the face of the man I sent, and hurled the cross on the floor, saying that, after having been defiled by the hands of American dogs, that cross was of no use to anybody in Germany. I knew my messenger told the truth, because the man I had in there reported the incident to me exactly the way he did. Incidentally I might say that the individual to whom I refer was in the German embassy seventeen months as one of the Ambassador's secretaries, and the Ambassador had no knowledge that he was not what he pretended to be until the Frederick VIII. left New York for Halifax. He said to my man, 'You had better get aboard or you will lose your boat,' and he replied, 'I am safer on this side.' Mr. von Bernstorff had no idea of that man's identity or whom he was serving until he left New York. And he wrote a letter from Halifax to a friend in New York, which he attempted to get back, but which was intercepted, telling some of his friends what he thought of this individual.

"The famous Huerta case, the attempt of the German government to embroil us with Mexico, an attempt that the re-



cent Zimmermann letter proved beyond any doubt to be true, was already proved by us a long time before. Early in the war my man in the embassy—I say my man; you must pardon me for that; I mean our man, because I am not the Providence Journal—was ordered by Captain Boy-Ed to go to New York and get a suite of six quiet rooms in a hotel where Boy-Ed and his people could meet Huerta. Naturally enough, my man, being loyal, could do nothing else than select the rooms we selected for him, so he went to the Manhattan Hotel and got a suite of rooms which we rigged up with apparatus; and to make assurance doubly sure I got another man to act as chauffeur on the auto that brought Huerta. They had their conference, and at the conclusion of that conference every word that was uttered—uttered through an interpreter, because Boy-Ed did not speak Spanish—was sent down to the Department of State the next morning. They had the entire facts before them, and knew everything, and for several months after, when Boy-Ed and von Bernstorff were frothing at the mouth and uttering denials, the State Department had the very words that were uttered."

Another incident, the loss of a portfolio belonging to Dr. Heinrich Albert, an Austrian official, which contained papers relating to Ambassador Dumba's efforts to incite labor troubles in the United States, created quite a stir among the diplomats. Mr. Rathom told of how a Journal reporter got the papers, as the result of which Dumba was sent back to Austria by the President.

"One of the Journal reporters had been shadowing Dr. Albert in New York, but for months nothing seemed wrong. One day he went into a leather-goods store, where he ordered a portfolio and gave the salesman instructions to put his initials on it. The reporter, as soon as Albert had gone out, walked up to the salesman and ordered another portfolio of the same kind, but with no initials, saying he would rather first see how the other gentleman's initials looked. When he came back and saw the initials he said he didn't like them and departed to go to another shop and have the same initials put on his portfolio. His work was becoming less tiresome and more fruitful than it had been. A day or so later Albert, carrying his new portfolio, was followed from the front of his apartments by the Journal man. Albert boarded an elevated train. He placed his bag containing papers on the seat beside him. Suddenly he was stirred by a fight in the front of the car. As he stood up to see what the trouble was, as did everybody else in the car, the portfolios were changed. This happened on a Saturday morning. Albert, in a statement later, said that he discovered the trick the same day, but we know for a fact that he did not discover the difference until Monday morning. Needless to say, the men who were fighting on the street car were also in the employ of the Journal."

It was through the Journal that a great quantity of important papers was secured from Wolf von Igel. These papers revealed the Casement plot for the Irish uprising. When the papers were taken von Bernstorff made application to the State Department to have them returned. He was told that any paper he could identify would be returned to him, and then realized how he had committed himself in asking that the papers be returned.

Three days before von Bernstorff was ordered to return to Germany, he de-

manded that the American Government suppress the Providence Journal.

"Every statement we have made in regard to German plots in the United States has been proven to be positively true," declared Mr. Rathom. "For the first nine or ten months no one believed what we were saying. We were shouting against the wind. The dismissal of Mr. Dumba was the first result of our months of effort.

"We have not printed one-fiftieth of what we secured, but we were very glad, when events shifted, to turn the key on the safe in which it is deposited and forget the balance, because the work we tried to do has been accomplished."

Mr. Rathom has led a most romantic life, and yet he is very reluctant to talk about himself. He has been a war correspondent, world traveler, author, and editor, and has seen nearly every corner of the globe, and yet he prefers to talk about the Providence Journal or his associates—particularly his reporters—or the trend in journalism today, rather than about himself.

Mr. Rathom, who was born in Melbourne, Australia, July 4, 1868, has said that until he came to this country he actually believed what he had been told in Australia, that he, like all other Australian boys who were born on Independence Day, would be given a gold medal by the United States Government. He came to this country confident he would receive his reward.

He was educated at Scotch College, Melbourne, and at Harrow School, Middlesex, England. At the age of twelve he joined the Bunbury expedition to New Guinea, and this party, which made a study of the tribal habits of the peoples of New Guinea, was, to use Mr. Rathom's expression, "some expedition." When eighteen years of age he was sent to the Sudan to cover a religious war for the Melbourne Argus.

Mr. Rathom's first work for an American newspaper was done in 1888 and 1889, when he covered special assign-

## A Fightin' Editor

RALPH D. KERN, Western Reserve Sigma Delta Chi and editor of Western Reserve Weekly, is belligerent. He was belligerent on his editorial page through which he fought a successful fight for compulsory training at his college, and he was belligerent in person. He joined an ambulance unit, qualified for the reserve officers' training course, and spent his spare time at other endeavors looking toward America's early participation in the European merriment.

The Rational Patriot, an anti-war paper published at Oberlin, nettled Kern, nettled him smartingly with two issues. He felt belligerent toward this pacifist paper, and especially belligerent toward its editor, Harold Devere Allen. In fact, he felt so belligerent that he made a special trip from Cleveland to Oberlin to tell Allen just what he thought of the Rational Patriot and its editor. He emphatically indicated that he and the public had had enough of the Patriot. There were many words.

It is recorded at length in the public prints of Ohio that the Rational Patriot was issued as announced, perhaps disappointingly tame, but still "rationally patriotic."

ments in China for the New York Herald. He was in China about two years and in 1890 came to America.

The first newspaper work that Mr. Rathom did in this country was for the New York Herald, also. It was in 1890 that he was sent up into the Behring Sea country for the Herald to cover the seal-hunting difficulties which this country was having with Great Britain. The same year Mr. Rathom accompanied Lieut. Frederick Schwatka's expedition to Alaska. That was also a Herald undertaking.

Following the return of the Schwatka expedition Mr. Rathom served as telegraph editor of the Portland (Ore.) Oregonian. From Portland he went to San Francisco, and for five years was a reporter on the Chronicle. In 1898 he went to Chicago and joined the staff of what was then the Times-Herald. The same year he went to Cuba as a war correspondent for that newspaper. Mr. Rathom was in Chicago until 1906, when he went to Providence to become managing editor of the Journal. He has been there ever since.

Mr. Rathom is a man easy to approach. He is a huge man, is more than six feet in height, and it is a safe wager that he weighs more than 200 pounds. He has a fine, large, kindly face, and he possesses that faculty of making his visitor feel at home after a moment's conversation.

Mr. Rathom dislikes the personal element in newspaper work, which persists in coming to the surface at times.

"The Journal has been praised from one end of the country to the other for the work it did in exposing German plotting in this country," said Mr. Rathom. "Many have given me the credit. The credit is not mine. The Journal is not the work of an individual. It is an institution. The men who deserve much of the credit are the reporters, the men who went out after the stuff and got it.

"The half of our story has yet to be told. We are asked how our men succeeded in getting confidential positions in the German and Austrian embassies. Well, that's a question. That's also a big story. Some day, possibly after the war, who knows?" and Mr. Rathom smiled a smile which indicated that the story may then be told.

Hanging on the wall in Mr. Rathom's office is a life buoy from the German submarine U-53. When asked where he obtained the trophy, Mr. Rathom said, with a hearty laugh:

"Why, the U-53 engineer was a Journal reporter."

And then he said:

"A fisherman found that floating in the bay and he brought it in to us."

Mr. Rathom said that when the Journal began publishing startling information about German intrigue, the Journal was at once assailed by German-Americans in all parts of the country as being in alliance with the British secret service.

"There isn't a word of truth in that," said Mr. Rathom rather vigorously, as he allowed his fist to bang his desk and the letters went flying. "The truth is that a bunch of live American reporters outwitted German diplomacy."

Mr. Rathom cannot talk about reporters without getting very enthusiastic. He believes in them thoroughly, and regards them as the makers of newspapers.

Mr. Rathom is today an editor of a great newspaper. He is doing great things. But he prefers to sit in the background and be known simply as a newspaper man doing his work faithfully.

# Dumpings from Purist Junk Carts

By Sterling Andrus Leonard

**H**OTLY earnest souls are constantly bursting into print with denunciations of the decay of the English language. They are always so comically intense about it, and so generally upside down with their information and deductions that they were the butts of never-ending ridicule. Yet they persist generation after generation, because people accept their gospel just as readily as they follow any loud-shouting evangel. Nothing in reality, you would suppose, could be as absurd as the precious women in Moliere's comedies. But you have only to look through such books as R. G. White's "Words and Their Uses"—still widely quoted as an authority—to see to what absurd lengths purists will often go.

You need not go so far afield, either. Only the other day students in the Columbia University School of Journalism, directed by Professor Franklin (not Brander) Matthews, criticized the English of a western newspaper; and they uttered in the process, among some more sensible suggestions, a number of pronouncements about English as obviously unbased in any knowledge of the present facts of the language, and hence as absurd in their pretence of representing good usage, as one can discover anywhere among the dumpings from purist junk carts. I learn that these dicta of theirs have since been given wide currency in The Editor and Publisher.

Since such things are possible, it may be worth a bit of labor to attempt finding out how valid and reasonable standards of usage really are discovered and formulated—not by moonshine distillation, but by an authorized procedure. For standards of some sort we obviously must and do have. We all have to make our p's and q's more or less alike, and when we mean spade we have to use a word that at least approximates it. Before arbitrarily setting forth a reasonable method, however, it is well to spy out how our purist friends proceed, and discover, if we can, why their determined methods invariably fail to set up any considerable part of the standards that they advocate.

The typical purist goes to work most often on a basis of what he or somebody else happens to dislike. Any expression he has never heard, especially any word used in a figurative sense, bewilders and pains his literal mind. He is at once moved to damn the expression eternally. You would suppose he would get into trouble with poets and imaginative writers, who insist on being individual and figurative. He does. The true purist recognizes no poet who has not become an undoubted classic. And even then he worries at the verses, parses them, and fumes at whatever in them is not trite and *cliche*. But he is an unwearied quoter of such lives as have got into Bartlett or the School Readers because they are part of a system he can understand.

You will see that the purist would have a fixed and unchanging language. He is a great admirer of the classical tongues because he supposes they were always as firm and rule-bound as when he studied them. How should he know

that they had as lively a history of change as English today—before they died? Any true purist will snarl angrily when de Quincey "wanders among a library" or Mr. Bennett speaks of an old poodle "to no sense agreeable." Professor Matthews' young purists howl right out loud when a newspaper reporter dares to say "the engines groped to obey the order" or the men "volunteered in droves." They dislike *lengthy*, *scored* (doubtless preferring *excoriated*) and *reliable* for *trustworthy*—or, rather, they have read, in one of those baseless fiat handbooks with which purists are constantly littering press and school and market, that someone else chanced to dislike the words and so cursed them publicly. So they score them all as "incorrect," or say, "There is no such word." How, in Heaven's name, do they think they know?

Another sort of purist is a brave champion of words "in their etymological significations." The editor of a great Eastern newspaper said recently that anyone "has much to learn about the English language" who does not know, among other things, "that egregious is only by custom and not by etymology an epithet of reproach." Professor Matthews' students would have you think that *stop*, having as its root meaning "to cease motion," has and can have no other sense; of course it has. They insist that *presume* cannot mean *suppose*—though it does—and that *quite* is never *almost*—but it frequently is. Finally—this choicest bit—"the rule is, he leaves a wife, the widow survives!"

There is still one long, delightful lane for purists to run wild in; they can be grammatical-logical purists. The neophyte critics whose divagations I have followed with such keen relish have been trained to be particularly sharp at this. They insist—contrary, of course, to fact—that *but* cannot mean *except* and that it is inexact to use *but* for *only*; this they label as "one of the most common errors." With obviously no knowledge of the facts, they assert that "none are" is incorrect. Their logic at times grows confused. One of them maintains that *while* can never mean *although*; another, that while it can mean *although* it can never mean *but*. One says, "Attention should be called sharply to the incorrect [sic] passive, 'He was granted a commission'!" Another, "The grammatical errors [sic] that were most common were split infinitives and [O, just Heaven!] split verbs (apparently like 'are constantly doing' and 'should certainly have known')!!!"

Now, if absurdity of misinformation and serene, arbitrary assurance therein can go farther than this in matters of usage, I don't know where to find it. And I have quite a collection of these precious dicta, to which I will welcome additions. The question at issue—and it is a highly important one—is simply this: Is the predilection of dictatorial and insistent purists to determine these matters? Is their triumphant etymology, even if it were always correct, or is their wavering sense of the logic of language to settle how we shall speak and write English? Heaven forbid! I need hardly point out that the duty of grammarians, teachers, and makers of

handbooks or dictionaries is never "to initiate or legislate," but to observe and record the best present usage. Their inexplorable refusal to do this—to find out the present-day accepted standard of cultivated speakers and writers of English and to stop nagging at them about it, or to present in a less angry and arbitrary fashion the reforms they regard as essential—has made the tribe of purist futile and accursed.

If one sets out to examine modern English speech or writing in the effort to discover proper standards, he will of course come upon many levels of usage—of the Bowery and the ball park as well as of educated people and—still more high and self-conscious—of literary persons. The standard one selects for himself will naturally be that of the social and intellectual rank he holds—or would like to hold. Most of us, for our every-day use, agree on a fairly conservative standard—that "of cultivated users of the language in their unstudied and informal talk and writing." And this everyone can find conveniently recorded, with reasonable correctness, in reputable dictionaries; he is under no necessity to spin it unaided out of his own inside or to seek it in a handbook spun out of the imagination and desires of anyone else, as we have found purists constantly doing. On matters where dictionaries do not usually legislate, like the "incorrect passive" and the "split verb," one can find all necessary data simply from reading standard literature with his eyes upon these details. Strangely enough, almost none of this literature has been written by purists or, as we have noted, conforms to their pronouncements. We will find that we have, in contrast to the cramped pen where these purists would confine us, a refreshingly wide and free field, with only narrow patches of grammatical or verbal incorrectness set off as "vulgar" or otherwise not in good repute. And within this field of accepted usage, if we catch any meddling purists legislating in their usual arbitrary fashion, we can have courage to tell them straightway how unwarranted and misinformed they are.

Any newspaper office, obviously, has the right to banish expressions the editors dislike. Whether it is wise to do this without other basis than this dislike, or than an aggrieved sense of outraged etymology or logic, is surely very doubtful. Almost nobody outside the office will ever notice these small and careful taboos, anyhow, because only violations of actual usage ever get in the way of ideas being understood or accepted. Piling up baseless strictures, then, only results in needless obstruction. And most of us find the job of expressing ourselves a hard enough one at best, without a futile weight of old purist junk laid upon us in addition.

Note.—I should say that I have had to write these notes while stopping among the mountains, with only rough jottings of the School of Journalism criticisms at hand. If I have misquoted them anywhere, I hereby make apology; I am confident that I have not substantially misrepresented them. Whoever

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# The Newspaper of the Future

By Ralph Block

(Michigan), Domestic News Editor of The New York Tribune.

**P**ROPHECY is a dangerous business anywhere. And I dare so to the casual journalist in a world that moves and modifies, his own craft at least, out of all crafts, is secure from innovation and change. Yet that attitude after all is only a passing reflection of the lethargy which comes after a long term of power; and behind the grumbling of every newspaper man at what is wrong with his trade is a vague knowledge of the things he might do to right it.

It is not at all impossible to see evolving out of the slow shedding of procedure in American newspaper offices, the uncoiling of newspaper convention, a new medium of public utility, which for want of a better name I might call The Newspaper of the Future.

There may be something startling in the sudden notion that American newspapers have been long enough at their business to develop habits they can better do without. We rather pride ourselves, press and public alike, on our enterprise, on our speed, on the facility with which we engineer the hazardous game of our race against Time. We have even developed a newspaper legend. The cub reporter and the city editor are perfectly recognizable types in fiction; and there can be no doubt that we have developed a technique of the newspaper of today.

Even with all this stereotyping of a business which at its best is in flux, The Newspaper of the Future might be merely a phrase, as I hope it is not, if some indefinable change had not overtaken that factor in the situation which makes the newspaper itself possible—the public. It is taking a risk to say that the American public is becoming more rational. But at least the newspaper of Spanish-War times, with its windy headline patriotism, its superficial sanity which was in so many cases a cloak for stupidity, and its excitement over the physical fact of competition in getting

news to the public, cannot be compared to the newspaper of today—sufficiently seasoned to do its work calmly and powerfully, however much more we might wish it to accomplish. And behind this change is the attitude of the public itself.

The day has gone, I believe, and another has come, when instead of the mere detailing of facts—a result of what has come to be described as the reportorial vision—news has taken on an added technical meaning. And that meaning may best be given as the detailing of mental attitudes, of psychologies, of that large indefinite motion which holds great groups of people together and moves them to action. I do not in any way point to this as a personal contribution to a new theory of journalism. For it has already received an extensive recognition in the growth of the "review," and in the encouragement which a suddenly topsy-turvy world has given to the interpretative journalist. The war correspondent is no longer the feature writer, a crude blacksmith of words. He possesses an extensive knowledge of the world of yesterday as well as of today, and words for him are only the instruments by which he interprets to a Time-driven civilization the events for which it has no key.

An important part of the process of growing up is the development of procedures, of ways and means of getting things done. Doubtless much of our American preoccupation with Efficiency has been in an attempt to find a way out of the million troubles a modern world has thrust on us. There was a time when we worked with facts purely as such, when the things of our life were the bricks with which we built. But we are arriving at a point when facts have taken on a new significance, and with our journey has come a realization of the meaning of the relationships between them. The greatest problem of modern times is how to marshal the thought of

an aggregate world, and it is a problem in which the whole element of publicity has come to play the most important part.

The newspaper cannot escape the duty thus thrust upon it. The editorial writer of yesterday, whose opinions most often were based upon cloudy theory, rarely upon fact, must welcome the metamorphosis which this new condition offers; or he must retire. In his new phase he extends his power, leaves the narrow limits of his cloistral retreat and finds the front page awaiting him.

What this points to in effect is a revival of personal journalism. But it will not be a journalism of autocracy. The old regime, under which one editor could hypnotize men and facts at will, order truth and falsehood as he pleased behind the impenetrable cloak of anonymity, has passed. In its place is a new order of personal responsibility, in which in time every writer will stand on his own feet and under the protection—and guarantee—of his own name.

The Newspaper of the Future will not retire from the field of facts. But there will be no attempt to disguise them, and it is possible to see in the future entire sections devoted to the news of the day presented as exactly and definitely as in a communique from the Western front. That will be done merely for the convenience of a public rational enough and wise enough to want to do some of its own thinking. But the chief function of The Newspaper of the Future will be to illuminate and interpret the whole theater of life, give it coherence where it is apparently inchoate, distinguish values and shades of difference in a landscape that might so easily remain flat and commonplace.

To all of this there is but one condition—the continued development of a public sufficiently awake to try every day of the year to understand the world it inhabits.

## War Smites the News Staffs

**W**HAT'S going to happen in newspaper offices when men are called for military service under the selective draft law? The question is occasioning serious concern among American newspaper editors.

Immediately following America's entry into the war, newspaper men began to enlist. Despite the number who have heard the call to the colors, few newspapers have had difficulty in adjusting themselves to frequent and numerous staff changes.

The New York World, including the Evening World, has lost from all departments—editorial, business and mechanical—nearly one hundred men. The Portland Oregonian has lost 75, the Cleveland Leader 34, the Minneapolis Tribune 40, the Providence Journal 35. The list could be continued almost indefinitely. A large percentage of these men have gone

from the editorial department and, as would be expected, most of them were reporters.

In the smaller cities new men have been engaged, because full staffs were imperative. In New York and Chicago, however, few have been added to staffs, principally because of the tremendous increase in the costs of everything used in newspaper making, print paper particularly, which has made a possible cut in expenses a happy opportunity, but also because of the increased amount of telegraph news used and the consequent decreased amount of local news. New York city editors have said that it is really surprising how few reporters are actually needed to get out a newspaper.

Most newspaper reporters are between 21 and 31, the ages affected by the selective draft law. While it is admitted that newspapers are necessities, it is not

granted that reporters are necessary to necessity making; at least, no provision is made for exempting newspaper men. It is possible that the government authorities believe that a large enough number of reporters will be exempted on usual grounds and that no special exemption need be made.

Publishers everywhere are convinced that when the men are actually called many women will find open to them newspaper positions which previously had been closed. The Tulsa (Okla.) Democrat and Times, for example, lost all of its men reporters and today has a staff of women in their stead. The Buffalo Evening News has a copy girl. The St. Paul Dispatch has a printer's devil who is a girl.

It is only natural that newspaper publishers should be watching the operation of the selective draft law with more than a detached and professional interest.

# The Bloodhounds of the Press

(Trailing Public Opinion)

By Paul Greer

(Michigan), Member of the Editorial Staff of The Kansas City Star.

A SWEET little girl was introducing two friends. "This," she said, "is my uncle Douglas. I pray for him every night."

In her innocent heart was the same feeling that actuates every newspaper man who fosters a spark of youthful idealism. And in no other profession than journalism is the spirit of eternal youth so frequently found. This hopefulness, this reliance on the cornucopia of the future, does not take the form of loyalty to the paper on which he works, or its policies. There is more of what the British soldiers call "grousing" in the city room than in any trench within the confines of the European hell.

But it is loyalty to his ideal that keeps the reporter keen—loyalty to what his paper might be—contempt for what it is.

From the strictly commercial point of view, the object of a newspaper is to make money. Disseminating knowledge of current events is a sideline. Even the incident of furnishing opinions on affairs of the day is a sideline. The exactness of this belief is witnessed by a recent editorial in one of the progressive dailies of the country, the San Francisco Bulletin.

"Newspaper men are just like other men," the editor remarks. "A certain percentage of them, having power, abuse it. A certain percentage of them are influenced by money, by favor, by business, by politics, or by all of these combined, to advocate what they know is not right. Many newspapers live only by meeting hard conditions of survival, and these conditions, in an imperfect civilization, are not always those approved by Christian ethics. The manufacture and sale of newspapers and of advertising space in newspapers is as much a business as the manufacture and sale of canned goods. True, there are publishers who regard journalism as a public trust, that has an ethical as well as a business side, and where the private interest conflicts with the public interest are ready to make heavy sacrifices for what they deem right. But many newspapers respond to business on the theory that it is business—business of readers and business of advertisers—that makes them go."

That is the newspaper from a publisher's standpoint. But from the outlook of the public the duty of a newspaper is to furnish the news. It is the task of the public to hold the newspaper as closely as possible to this obligation. This should not be difficult, for newspapers are themselves subject to public opinion, and are dependent on its laxity or watchfulness for whatever power or income they possess.

Public opinion is ten years ahead of the laws. For that we have the word of professors of sociology. Where, in this procession, is the newspaper? Does it lead public opinion or trail it? Is it at all in advance of the solid embodiment of past customs that we call law? Or is the press of today merely within the law?

There may be newspapers in each of these classes. However, I cannot call to mind the name of a paper that is ahead of public opinion. If one exists, be sure it is losing money—which is unprofessional unless you are subsidized.

It is doubtful if even William Randolph Hearst imagines that he leads public opinion with his widely scattered organs. His booming methods and those of Lord Northcliffe differ from the tactics of the average American editor only in matter of degree.

The story of how Lord Northcliffe saved the British empire (or was it the world?) by exposing the failing of shrapnel to kill entrenched Germans, and of how he, with his papers, inspired public opinion to demand a director of munitions who would furnish high explosive shells, is known round the earth. What is not known, and yet what is the truth, is that this great publisher, in a conversation at the War Office, learned that shrapnel was ineffective, and that the War Office planned to supplant it with high explosives.

It was after that the Daily Mail opened its campaign against inefficiency and demanded that shrapnel be used no more. However much the British authorities might smart, under the prevailing idea of censorship they could not come out and announce that already they had changed munitions, but must go quietly ahead with their task. There came a day when the Daily Mail could announce that the obsolete shells of the South African campaign were no more used. "I did it," said Northcliffe, and the censor let no one say him no. "The Paper That Got the Shells," is its catchline.

Yet the press is credited with molding public thought. Analyzed, the reaction is more akin to organizing the mind of the people and crystallizing opinions. Each one of us may have wondered if any one else in the world thought as we did. Suddenly a newspaper prints an expression corresponding with our views. Immediately we discover that there are thousands who think as we do, and that other thousands, thus put in touch with a new idea, have accepted it. It is by the press that the strands of progressive thought are twisted together into the rope with which reactionaries may hang themselves. It is by the newspapers that an issue is brought forth. The people read, and themselves decide.

A newspaper man is at a certain disadvantage in discussing the effect of the press on the social mind, for he is not, so to speak, a member of the public, but of the press. The practice of journalism would indeed be simplified if any one knew what effect a given article would have on the aggregate mind of his readers. Accurate knowledge might reveal, however, that the same item would have a different effect for every reader. Such is the diversity of our prejudices and interests.

Consider a hypothetical editorial that starts out with the statement that the best shoes, as far as wear and comfort

are concerned, are those worn in the United States army. Manufacturers compete eagerly for the government contract, and soldiers have been buying the shoes from the government at about three dollars a pair. Then let the writer propose a scheme whereby the government would let the contract for all the shoes worn in the country, and give every citizen the privilege of buying them from public officials. The ordinary wage earner would greet the proposal with enthusiasm. What would the proprietors of the shoe stores say? What would their wives say, and the shoe clerks and their wives, and the other middlemen and their wives, who would see in this an opening wedge for Socialism or something worse?

Public opinion would be rent asunder. The middlemen are the advertisers, and support the newspapers. The advertising ear is the one in which the editor hears best.

That is what radicals mean when they speak that easy phrase: "the capitalist press." Yet why condemn the press, when the advertiser is equally guilty? Since when has it been worse to take a bribe than give one?

None of us has seen such an editorial printed, although public opinion, once collected, might endorse it.

In the western part of the United States, citizens who had chafed under the inefficient methods of the street railway corporations welcomed the advent of the jitneys. These motor cars, running along regular routes, cut deeply into the income of the traction interests. The only way in which the new system of transportation could be checked was by influencing legislation as to licensing, taxation and regulation. The leading newspaper of one city ran daily articles indorsing the jitney cars, and the aldermen were afraid to legislate against them. Then one day passed without any reference to the contest by this newspaper. Gradually it changed sides until it began finding fault with the jitney system.

A delegation of union men called on the editor to learn the reason for the new policy. Wearily he swung about in his chair and said:

"Gentlemen, this paper is run from the department stores downtown. If you want the reason for anything we do, ask them."

Do you think the department stores rule public opinion? If they do not, then the newspaper doesn't, either.

The pitiful thing about the voice of the people is that it is so inarticulate. Not even at the polls is the public will fully expressed. Yet the opinion of the majority is the greatest force and the highest court in the land. Newspapers and lawmakers bow to it—when it is aroused, organizes, and expresses itself.

How to improve this condition is a problem in democracy. If I were a newspaper reader, when a thing was printed of which I did not approve I should write to the editor. He is always



interested in what people think of his publication, and of his policies. As it is now, most of the letters that come into newspaper offices are written in ill temper, full of blindly mistaken accusations that cannot be dignified by consideration.

A brief note of constructive criticism from an intelligent man or woman often will guide an editor and help him puzzle out the social mind.

Out of this situation arises the importance of the public forum movement. Mass meetings and lectures are well enough, but it is in the forum alone that the public can express its thoughts. There is a market place where any man may display his beliefs, where the chaff is threshed from the wheat, where public opinion is not only organized, but expressed. It is a cross-section of society—a thing the newspaper must become.

The greatest effect of the social mind on the newspapers is the result of the growing demand that the press shall be honest and moral. It is certainly becoming cleaner, simply for the reason that it is guided by self-interest. Competition has justified scrupulous, competent and honest journalism as far as it has been tried.

There are a good many illusions about the part the newspapers are playing in the spread of prohibition. And they are popularizing the idea. But what was the seed of the thing?

First, I should say, came the agitator, laughed at by the majority of the people and the press. Then, in such states as Maine and Kansas, the people voted to abolish the sale of liquor. Their newspapers may have praised them for their virtue, but still printed the advertisements of the brewers and distillers. Then people began writing to the editors, protesting that, having barred alcohol from their communities, their daily news-

papers urged them to buy it. The flood of letters grew so great that, in order to keep his subscribers and in the hope of attracting the readers of less astute papers, an editor here and an editor there would tell about the financial sacrifice he was glad to make to keep his paper clean. Public opinion did it.

For seventy years an energetic campaign for woman suffrage has been carried on in this country. In 1888, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, at a conference in Washington, drew up a statement of the grievances of women, using the American Declaration of Independence as a model. This resolution, proclaiming woman's right to vote, was adopted unanimously. Here is what the author wrote of its reception:

"There was not a single newspaper from Maine to Louisiana which did not contain our Declaration of Independence and present the matter as ludicrous. My good father came from New York on the night train to see whether I had lost my mind."

There are two things this suggests: First, in the matter of woman suffrage the newspapers assuredly were not ahead of public opinion. Second, that a great force for expressing and leading public thought is found in women's clubs.

In its best sense, forming public opinion is nothing but educating the public. That has been done through the initiative of clubs in a number of instances, the campaign for pure milk being one. Then, there is the Humane Society, whose proper function is to spread kindness for animals, and the Consumers' League, which does the same thing for human beings of the working class.

I hope I am not prejudiced when I still say that the newspapers are as essential to social welfare as medicine or engineering. It is mainly by the news columns that the public is influenced. There if anywhere, may the uncolored facts be

found. I know people who take all the newspapers of their city and average up the stories to find out what is going on. Personally, I am not quite so skeptical. The personal element, of course, always enters into news writing. It is hard to suppress the reporter's individuality, either of style or of manner of looking at a question. Then there are times when a man is assigned to play up certain angles of a situation. In the days of the Spanish-American war, for instance, a correspondent was sent to one of the fronts with instructions to make a hero for Kansas.

The editorial columns, I should say, exert little influence. W. R. Nelson, editor and publisher of the Kansas City Star for so many years, often said that he wished to abolish the editorial page, and did cut down the editorial column. He believed that people today did not wish to read another man's opinion, but to be left to make up their own minds from the facts.

On the other hand, most editors either strive to lead public opinion through the editorial column, or to hold it back. The ideal editorial, of course, is one which attempts to find the truth and interpret it. But, one must remember, the first duty of the editorial writer is to write what his employer thinks, or is forced, by press of circumstances, to think he thinks.

So there are few, if any, papers that intelligent people rely on for guidance, politically, socially, economically. The influence that remains is gained, not through the rumble bumble of campaign arguments, or suddenly conceived crusades against this or that evil practice. The attitude of the people toward the vital issues of society is based on the more dispassionate and unbiased news reports stretching over a period of years.

This, then, is the American press as I see it. I pray for it.

## The Curse of Park Row

By William J. Black

*Member of the Editorial Staff of the New York Tribune.*

THE star system is the bane of New York newspapers. David Belasco was never more enamored of the emblazoned individual actress, to whom everything, including the electric sign, was subordinated, than are the New York newspaper and magazine proprietors. Surely William Randolph Hearst is responsible for this theatricalism in journalism.

No New York editor thinks it his duty to discover talent. That is left to chance and to development at other people's hands. Rather than discover a Briggs, a Simmons, or a Hapgood in the bush league and bring him to New York at \$100 a week, the editors prefer to wait until the talented writers and draftsmen have sufficiently advertised themselves. Then the editors willingly sign five-year contracts with them at \$10,000 a year.

Another editor's judgment is the first reliance. The second consideration is the label—how well known is a writer or an artist? Laboring with these "stars" to make the daily newspapers are the others of an illy-paid staff. The "star" draws \$10,000 a year, while the second man draws \$2,000. There is no intermediate step—there are no \$5,000 men. Whether in the "movies," in the legitimate theatre, in the newspapers or in the maga-

zines, a \$5,000 man is preposterous. A man is either worth pork and beans or he is worth a large fortune. Yesterday the stars, when they were freshest and did their best work, were pork and beans men. Today, when they have had their names inserted at the head of a column for a sufficient length of time, they are Fortune's darlings.

It is not necessary to infer that the "stars" have no merit. Usually they are able people. But the contrast between their original lot and their present lot, and the contrast between the present lot of their less fortunate associates and themselves rather stuns one. Hearst's magazines and newspapers afford the best illustration of this system. New talent finds it increasingly difficult to get recognition, but that is not its only grievance. It finds it increasingly hard to live during the lean years between its poverty and its sudden riches. It is either all or nothing. But that's all right. The rewards come no differently in business.

A great deal of talent comes to New York. Quite as much proportionately as to any state metropolis. Though in New York this talent makes a larger stir, because New York has a larger proportion of uneducated and poverty-stricken people than any other city in the United States, and necessarily the minority with

talent appears larger by contrast. A cultured man in Detroit or in Seattle stands out as an individual among 10,000 more or less crude persons. A cultured man in New York has a personal background of 50,000. Therefore, the newspaper, magazine, art, literary and financial colonies in New York have a disproportionate importance among the 5,000,000 tenement-dwellers.

This background gives literary and semi-literary callings in New York a special status which is scarcely known in lesser cities, where the contrasts are less sharp and where the population blends in degrees of culture. No young man of literary or artistic leanings should hesitate to try the New York market. He will find it, however, just as hard as a local market. While there are more people looking for openings, there are also more positions to get discharged from. If he chooses to wait and take his turn, the waiting is just as cheap in New York as elsewhere. There are more persons looking for a seat than there are seats in the subway, just as in a western street car. And the literary or newspaper straphanger who will get the next vacant seat will be the one who is standing nearest when the seat is vacated, which it will be, usually, by death, ill-health or promotion.



# Popularizing Japanese Newspapers\*

By Senator Ichiro Tokutomi  
*President of the "Kokumin Shimbun."*

THE publication of newspapers in Japan began with the Restoration, which opened the era of the Emperor Meiji. At the time the Government found it necessary to make the progress of the Restoration warfare, as well as various ordinances and proclamations, widely known to the people, and issued large numbers of pamphlets and periodicals. Following this example, private persons came to publish periodicals of various character, and some were published daily.

In those days, those who engaged in journalistic work were men of recognized scholarship or men with high social positions. Among them are Yukichi Fukuzawa, founder of the Keio-Gijiku University, and in fact the introducer of modern education to Japan; Genichiro Fukuchi, a politician and dramatic writer of remarkable ability; Joun Kurimoto, who had occupied the position of Foreign Minister at the time when the feudal government existed in Japan and Ryuhoku Narishima, who was born in the family of a renowned scholar, and who was the chief of the cavalry department of the feudal government. Being the work of such eminent and distinguished men, the Japanese newspapers were published for the reading of a selected few. At the same time there were published sheets exclusively dealing in gossips of the town. They, however, were treated as a thing quite different from newspapers.

The Government was then exceedingly liberal in the treatment of newspapers. The Government postal service went so far as to transport newspaper manuscripts entirely free of charge. About 1874 political views expressed in newspapers began to assume a too liberal tone, and editors indulged in making persistent and vehement attacks on the Government. The latter, as a sort of retaliation, issued a stringent press law and libel act.

It is a remarkable fact that the Japanese newspapers progressed by wars. They first came into existence for the necessity of publishing news of the war against the Shogunate government, which ended in the restoration of the Imperial regime. A great stride was made by the Japanese journalism through the civil war of 1877, usually known as the Satsuma rebellion. Genichiro Fukuchi, the foremost writer of the time, went to the general headquarters of the government army as a war correspondent. When he returned to the capital he was received by Emperor Meiji and ordered to give an account of the war. The newspapers became popular, and began to be considered a necessary by the people.

Until about 1890, Japanese newspapers were divided into two classes, commonly called great newspapers and lesser newspapers. The great newspapers dealt in politics exclusively, and their circulation was naturally limited, ranging between

## A Distinguished Figure In Japanese Journalism



Senator Ichiro Tokutomi

2,000 and 5,000. Among those which prided themselves as being great newspapers were the Yubin Hochi, the Choya, the Nichi-Nichi, the Jiji and the Mainichi. Lesser newspapers, on the contrary, published town gossip, fiction, and light reading, and never discussed serious questions. Among them were the Kaishin, the Ukiyo, the Yamato, and the Iroha, the most of these journals being now extinct.

Toward the end of the eighties, however, Japanese newspapers began gradually to assume the true character of a newspaper. Mr. Fumio Yano, one of the great writers in Japan, who later represented Japan in Peking, made an attempt to convert the Hochi, one of the great newspapers, into a lesser newspaper, introducing into its pages, in addition to politics, matters of human interest. The attempt was successful and the sale of the newspaper greatly increased.

But the newspaper which did much to destroy the demarcation of the great and lesser newspapers, was the Kokumin Shimbun, which was first published in 1890. It went a middle course between the great and lesser newspapers. It published serious discourses of politics as well as light literature for entertainment. It published articles relating to literature, religion, social questions, fine arts, industries, education and other questions, which had been rigidly ignored by Japanese newspaper men until that time.

The general tone of Japanese newspapers also began to assume a different color. Until that time the leading articles were long essays. Now they became shorter, characterized with light touches. There were also piquant monographs. Interviews were widely used. Formerly illustration was almost limited to fiction; now photographs and sketches were profusely published with the reports of current events. The newspapers in general became vivacious, as Japan had an epoch-

making event in the opening of the first Imperial Diet in 1890.

The real progress of Japanese newspapers was made by the China-Japan war of 1894-5, when the circulation of all newspapers increased by leaps and bounds. At the same time the newspapers began to assume an international character, publishing telegrams from foreign capitals abundantly and showing keen interest in the current events of the world. The war of 1894-5 was really epoch-making in the newspaperdom of Japan. Until that time, newspapers were mostly organs of one party or another, and contented with being mouthpieces of others. Journalism was a hobby-work by the men who had already made their career in some other walks of life, and was regarded as a stepping-stone by the young men who had still to carve out their own career. The public refused to recognize the value of newspapers as newspapers only. Neither had journalists social recognition as journalists only. It was only after the China-Japan war that the newspapers had their own standing, and journalism became an independent profession for aspiring young men. It was no more a mere stepping-stone. Newspapers and journalists came to possess their own status.

The power wielded by the Japanese newspapers was most emphatically demonstrated by the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-5. Through the influence of newspapers, the Japanese nation was united as one man in the determination to bring the war to a successful conclusion. Again the agitation of newspapers was responsible for the serious rioting that occurred in Tokio and other cities of Japan against the Portsmouth Treaty and the government which concluded the peace treaty.

The Japanese newspapers at present are mostly independent. They have not the backing of the government, political parties or money interests. Newspaper men also consider the journalistic profession as a life-work, and not a stepping stone for some other career.

The circulation of the Japanese newspapers also greatly increased after the Russo-Japanese war. There are many newspapers which are selling more than a quarter of a million copies every day. The sale of Japanese newspapers is done mostly by subscription, so that the difference between the numbers of copies printed and sold is really insignificant.

One real danger in the sound progress of journalism in Japan lies in the fact that the Japanese newspapers depend too much on the public. This may cause them to become too commercialized and make them to endeavor to follow the public rather than to lead it.

Formerly journalism was a hobby-work of amateurs, and naturally remuneration of journalists was smaller than that of other professions. But all this difference has now been removed, and newspaper men's remuneration is by no means inferior to that of others. Newspapers themselves have become all-powerful in Japan, and the Fourth Estate now offers a strong inducement to the bright and youthful minds. Newspaperdom of this country, therefore, cannot be viewed except as having a future full of bright promises.

\*Editor's Note—The Quill is indebted to the New York Evening Post for permission to reprint Senator Tokutomi's article from its Second Japanese Supplement, published June 30, 1917, and for the photograph of the author.

# News of the Breadwinners

**FRANK B. THAYER** (Wisconsin), instructor in journalism at the University of Kansas, was married June 6 to Miss Vera Virginia Hill, of Smith Center, Kan. Miss Hill was formerly a student of the University of Kansas.

**Selden Wilcox** (Minnesota ex-'17) is having exceptional success with the newspaper, *Public Opinion*, which he has been editing at Bismarck, N. D. Wilcox started the paper last fall and has found things going so well that he has delayed returning to Minnesota to finish his senior year. He was formerly a reporter on the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch and also editor of the *Minnesota Farm Magazine*. He contributed to several of the large farm periodicals while in college.

**Mason Dobson** (Beloit '10), sports writer for the *Beloit Daily News*, recently resigned and joined the *American Ambulance Field Service* in France.

**Merle Potter** (Minnesota '16), a former editor of the *Minnesota Daily* and now editor and publisher of the *Waukon* (Iowa) *Sentinel*, was recently married in St. Paul to Miss Lucy How, also a 1916 Minnesota graduate, who was on the staff of the *Daily*.

**Jay N. Darling** (Beloit '99), formerly cartoonist for the *Des Moines* (Iowa) *Register* and now the boasted possession of the *New York Tribune*, served as official cartoonist for the *Chicago Tribune* a short time in the spring, during McCutcheon's absence. "Ding" is an honorary member of the Iowa State chapter.

**Clarence K. Streit** (Montana) has enlisted in the Eighth Engineers, which will soon be sent to France. Streit was recently a reporter for the *Missoula* (Mont.) *Missoulian*.

**Paul Neiman** (Washington ex-'14) is covering police for the *San Francisco Call-Post*.

**Ed Stanley** (Montana '16) resigned recently from the editorial staff of the *Great Falls* (Mont.) *Tribune* and enlisted in the marine corps. He is now at Mare Island, Cal.

**Horace Wilcox** (Beloit '15) is editor of the *Fort Morgan Times* at Fort Morgan, Colorado.

**A. Bernard Bergman** (Ohio State '16) recently left the *Columbus* (O.) *Dispatch* to enlist in the signal corps. He is now at Camp Perry, O.

**Colin V. Dymont** (Oregon honorary), head of the department of journalism at the University of Washington, is in charge of instruction in journalism at the University of California, Berkeley, this summer. He is assisted by Ralph Casey (Washington '13), assistant professor of journalism at the State University of Montana, Missoula.

**Eric W. Allen**, dean of the school of journalism in the University of Oregon, is in charge of journalism instruction this summer at the University of Washington. He is assisted by E. E. Troxell (De Pauw), assistant professor of journalism at Washington.

**N. A. Crawford**, head of the department of industrial journalism and printing at the Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, was recently elected president of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors.

**Edward B. Swanson** (Washington '18) is assistant sporting editor of the *Seattle Times*.

**Herbert Flint** (Kansas) is in the New York office of the *United Press*.

**Miles Vaughn** (Kansas) is now manager of the St. Louis office of the *United Press*.

**Roger Steffan** (Ohio State '13), past president of Sigma Delta Chi, recently sold his interest in the *Evening Sun* of Durham, N. C., and will return to Ohio.

**Dean W. Davis** (Missouri), national treasurer of Sigma Delta Chi, has left the *Cleveland Leader* to join the reserve officers' training corps at Fort Riley, Kan.

**Roy L. Harvey** (Beloit '09) has given up the editorship of the *Beloit Daily News* and is in business in California.

**Herbert W. Smith** (Missouri) has been appointed instructor in advertising at the University of Missouri.

**Otis Godfrey** (Minnesota '17) has taken up the practice of law at St. Paul. Godfrey plans to spend part of his time in feature-story writing.

**George Q. Brace** (Beloit '15) is traveling representative for the Rogers Printing Company, of Dixon, Ill.

**Clifford L. Day** (Beloit '15) is now correspondent for the *Associated Press* at Fargo, N. D.

**Anders Shipton** (Beloit '15), formerly editor of a weekly at Woodstock, Ill., has taken a position with the advertising department of Mandel Brothers at Chicago. At last word he had applied for enlistment in the quartermaster division of the enlisted reserve corps.

**Leon Friedman** (Ohio State '18) recently became editor of the *Policeman's Monthly*, New York.

**Claude C. Habberstad** (Beloit '16) has just completed a year's graduate work at Harvard, where he specialized in dramatic writing. He has written a number of dramas, some of which have been produced by amateur companies. He intends to make this his life work.

**Lucien Kellogg** (Washington), lately a copy reader on the *Detroit News*, is now in the publicity department of the Burroughs Adding Machine Co., Detroit.

**Frank C. Dean** (Illinois '12) is assistant editor of the *Agricultural Extension Service* of Ohio State University. He was formerly connected with the University of Nebraska.

The Lowry tribe is one hundred per cent valiant. National President Robert Lowry enrolled with Co. 3, Reserve Officers' Training Camp, at Leon Springs, Texas. O. M. Lowry, his brother, who has assisted Bob in the management of the Capitol News Service at Austin, Texas, is a sergeant in the quartermaster corps at Fort Sam Houston. Another brother answered the call to the colors long before the draft registration occurred.

**Alan A. Phillips** (Washington), lately probation officer in the Juvenile Court at Seattle, has entered the employ of the Bon Marche, the leading department store of the Northwest, to do social and psychological work.

**Frank Pennell** (Michigan) is in the literary department of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and has offices at 34 Nassau street, New York. After his graduation in 1912 Pennell became city editor of the *Bradford* (Pa.) *Era*. Later he joined the forces of The Western Underwriter Co. at Cincinnati, and, besides writing for its various publications, conducted an insurance column in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. Subsequently he opened an office for the Underwriter in New York, resigning a year

ago to accept employment with the Mutual Life. Among his duties is the publication of a quarterly house organ, *Points*, which goes to 14,000 agents.

**James W. Bennett** (Stanford '16) spent the winter at Riverside, Cal., working on short stories and verse and preparing to take a summer trip to the South Seas. Later he will study journalism at Columbia.

**Edwin Ford** (Stanford '15) has given up a position on a St. Paul paper to take graduate work at the University of Minnesota.

**Roger G. Wolcott** (Wisconsin) is on the *Sioux City* (Iowa) *Journal*.

**Hilton C. Hornaday** (Wisconsin) is on the *Minneapolis Tribune*.

**Milton Hagen** (Stanford ex-'15), one of the founders of the Palo Alto chapter, has again started an advertising agency in Los Angeles. He was employed by the *Dake Advertising Agency*.

**Walter C. Candy** (Beloit), head of the mathematics department of the Barron, Wis., high school, has been doing writing on the side for the *Barron Shield*.

**Andrew Eldred** (Washington), formerly of the *United Press Bureau* at the national capital and now political reporter on the *Detroit News*, has applied for a place in the Reserve Officers' Training Camp at Fort Lawton, Seattle, Wash.

**James Devlin** (Michigan) is covering the federal building for the *Detroit News*.

**Ralph J. Block** (Michigan) is domestic news editor of the *New York Tribune*.

**Walter Wilgus** (Michigan), copy reader on the *New York Tribune*, is in training at Plattsburg and has high hopes of an officer's commission.

**Frank H. King** (Missouri), formerly editor of the *University Daily Missourian*, sailed from San Francisco June 30 for Tokio to join the staff of the *Japan Advertiser*. He is the fourth Missourian to join the *Advertiser* staff, having been preceded by Oscar Riley, J. G. Babb, Jr., and Ralph H. Turner. Russell L. Richard and Charles Roster, also of the Missouri School of Journalism, are to work on the Honolulu (H. I.) *Star-Bulletin*. Roster is a Sigma Delta Chi.

**James Schermerhorn, Jr.** (Michigan) is reporting for the *Detroit Times*, edited and published by his father.

**Vinton McVicker** (Ohio '17), recently with the *Columbus* (O.) *Citizen*, is now a member of the news staff of the New York office of the *United Press*.

**Howard Perry** (Montana '17) has left the *Tacoma* (Wash.) *Tribune* to join the staff of the *Missoula* (Mont.) *Missoulian*. He was with the *Everett* (Wash.) *Tribune* for a short time immediately after graduating.

**Verne Burnett** (Michigan) resigned from the staff of the *Detroit Free Press* in May to become assistant managing editor of *The American Boy*, succeeding Frank Mason (Ohio), who is serving the government. Burnett graduated from the University of Michigan in February, and was married a few days later in Ann Arbor to Miss Laura Murdock, '18, after failing to qualify physically for military service. His home address is 467 Blaine Avenue, Detroit.

**Louis H. Seagrave** (Washington) had charge of the publicity end of the Liberty Loan campaign in Oregon. He has made application for admission to the second Reserve Officers' Training Camp at Fort Harrison, Ind.



# Books the Journalist Should Know

## *The Confessions of a War Correspondent.*

THE Richard Harding Davis standard of truth is the standard of the correspondents who send news of the Great War to the American people today. This, says William G. Shepherd, of the United Press, in "Confessions of a War Correspondent" (Harper & Bros.), is more than can be said of the horde of writers which invaded Europe three years ago. For among them were many who faked. Some of the fakes were harmless, mere lies which glorified the writer. And some of them were harmful.

Although, he admits, his sympathies are thoroughly those of the Allies, Shepherd declares, "I never found a first-hand Belgian atrocity story; and when I ran down the second-hand stories they all petered out. \* \* \* The first Belgian atrocity stories to reach the United States from Belgium were those of certain correspondents whose reputations among American newspaper men are those of arch-fakers, and who, since the early days in Belgium, have lied about so many other things that they have since become discredited in newspaper circles."

There have been three ages in Great War correspondence: The day of the free-lance and faker; the "dark ages" when such writers had discredited the whole clan and almost nothing seeped through the censorship; and the present stage, when accredited correspondents are listed everywhere in little black books, and, unless they betray trusts, are treated with consideration.

And the men on the job today tell the

truth, as did the late Richard Harding Davis.

"If you read a story by Davis," Shepherd quotes Frederick Palmer, "about a little yellow dog in some out-of-the-way village you could be sure, not only that Davis had really been in the village, but that he had really seen the yellow dog."

Shepherd has done his bit at fighting the censor. He has eluded censors, has outwitted them, has co-operated with them, and has finally got the censor viewpoint himself. It is always a source of wonder to Shepherd, considering the censor's responsibility, that the man with the scissors and blue-pencil ever lets anything go through.

Censors suspect everything written; upon their decisions hang the lives of men; and they are careful. They do not rewrite or insert. They merely cut. And, of course, skilful cutting has been known to distort a story. Today the censorship is much more satisfactory than three years ago, and at London, American correspondents are often better treated in the release of news than are the British themselves.

The newspaper man in Europe may expect great difficulties in travel because of spy suspicions. Usually he spends his time visiting the war offices and waiting for the trips to the front which the government arranges for him. He gets enough of the horrors of war; occasionally he gets shot at; from time to time he gets what he is after—news.

Shepherd's little book is written simply, to interest the man in the newspaper office and the man on the street. It is entertaining and is pleasingly free from idioms of foreign language and the technicalities of war. It is an informal afternoon chat.

## *The Typography of Advertisements That Pay*

TO their already pretentious and important list of books on salesmanship advertising and business management, D. Appleton & Co. have added a useful and worthy volume, *The Typography of Advertisements That Pay*. The author, Gilbert P. Farrar, speaks with that air of authority which the master of two crafts, advertising and printing, rightly assumes, although somewhat too often one has but his fiat rather than a principle established beyond cavil.

Mr. Farrar's purpose in writing was to acquaint the advertising man and the printer with the means of choosing and combining "type faces, engravings and all other mechanical elements of modern advertisement construction" and to this end he has filled the larger portion of the book with well selected and familiar illustrative matter, drawn from the press.

He also displays selections from 12 "families" of types which his good taste dictates, although almost everyone familiar with the case will be likely to protest at the omission of a face familiar to him and dearly beloved. If we were forced to quarrel with him despite his infinitely greater authority, it would be not over exclusions. One can not reasonably ask him to include all that are attractive.

The author has fine discrimination, and the choice of illustrative advertisements is such as to make the book a considerable equipment for creditable fashioning of copy. One might very easily become enslaved to so satisfying a handbook. And its clarity and sensible arrangement make it a reference work available to the least initiate.

# Honor Versus Enterprise

By Fred N. Scott

*President of the American Association of Teachers of Journalism*

I have often been asked what definite results might be anticipated from the establishment of courses in journalism in American universities. Probably there will be a variety of results, but one, and not the least important, is suggested by a story in the May number of "Pep," entitled "Break It Gently, But Get the Pics."

A woman reporter is sent to the house of a bride of twenty-four hours whose husband has just shot himself. She is expected to get a picture of the woman and her husband. Finding that the wife is not at home, she enters the house and sees on the wall the picture she wants. She takes it down and hides it under her blouse. The wife, when she returns, hears the news of her husband's suicide, collapses and is brought to by the reporter. The story ends with the words, "They were glad at the office to get the picture."

Now it is the business of courses in journalism to fill newspaper offices with men and women who will make such things as this impossible.

I would not apply any ugly terms to reporters or their acts. The reporters are quite blameless. I would apply

them to the newspaper tradition, or superstition, that has made so monstrous a thing seem necessary and right.

To take a suggestion from this same story: If a German soldier went into a private house in Belgium and took down from the wall the cherished photograph of a woman and her husband, the husband having just been shot, we would all say, "See what a damnable, soul-destroying institution Prussian militarism is." And we should be right.

And yet when the same thing—or worse thing—is done on the plea of journalistic necessity, we are expected to admire it as newspaper enterprise.

There is one thing that we try to impress on our students so that they will never forget it. It is that a reporter must not do or say—and must not be asked to do or say—anything in violation of decency and honor.

If there is a clash between the reporter's sense of decency and honor on one side, and the sacredness of newspaper traditions on the other, it is the newspaper tradition that must go to smash. That is the way to start a new and better tradition.

When enough new and good traditions have been started, journalism will begin to look like a new profession.

Editor's Note—Professor Scott's remarks are reprinted from the July issue of "Pep," published by the Newspaper Enterprise Association.

TWELVE members of Sigma Delta Chi participated in the organization meeting of the Iowa College Press Association at Colfax, Iowa, this spring.

Six of the twelve participated in the program: Professor F. W. Beckman, W. N. Donohue and H. E. Pride of Iowa State chapter; and Professor Conger Reynolds, C. H. Weller and Homer G. Roland of Iowa chapter. Ralph Grassfield (Iowa '14) addressed the members of the fraternity in separate session.

The two chapters will be active in the administration of the new organization, and the accomplishment of its purpose of furthering the interests of the collegiate publications.

Eighty-five attended the conference, visited Des Moines newspaper plants, and heard addresses delivered by Iowa editors.

# THE QUILL

A quarterly magazine, devoted exclusively to the interests of journalists engaged in professional work and of young men studying journalism in American colleges and universities.

Official publication of Sigma Delta Chi, national journalistic fraternity.

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

LEE A. WHITE, Editor.  
CARL H. GETZ and STACY V. JONES,  
Associate Editors.

Subscription, one dollar per year, in advance.

Advertising rates sent upon application to business manager.

Editorial and business offices at 99 Maldstone street, Detroit, Michigan.

JULY, 1917.

## The Duty of the Press

**H**EAR, you, young men of The Press, your nation's call to service!

Armed mightily for the right, you who remain outside the ghastly and tumultuous Armageddon must yet wage war.

How best to fight? With conscience and right reason. Passion has succeeded Forbearance, and rides hard in the saddle. Yet awhile Passion must drive the spur and lay the gad; but in the end Forbearance will again be astride the nag—a jaded nag, perhaps.

There may be, there can be but one end to the war. To this certain end every sinew must lend itself. The Press is burdened with the high responsibility of sustaining the people in their time of distress; of yielding to them such solace as storied braveries may bear; of succoring the needy, and steadying the impulsive.

But these are the obvious occasions for service. More you must do. You must keep in the hearts of men the desire for peace and justice.

One day we each must look upon our foe as of a kind with all man—the day when we sit about the conference table and lay down the considerations upon which peace is based. For that day you must prepare America.

As you utter the battle cry for your people, you must be conscious of the superlative need of an ultimate judicial calm, and by this you must gauge your most casual utterance. The caustic pen, the embittered speech, the cruel jest of today will not quickly down. A fair fight and a conclusive one do not demand intemperance of thought or action or expression. The urge of imagination is strong upon you. The darts of language come quick to the mind, and the sensitive goal is too easily found. So much the greater your task of self-mastery.

One day you will bespeak an end to this war. Then, if you have conjured into being a malevolent monstrosity, how will you meet the public clamor for its utter extermination?

Yours now, and always, a war against unreason!

## Phantom Scribes.

**F**OR years newspaper men protested vigorously to magazine editors and publishers against those short-story writers and novelists who persisted in being consistent only to the extent that they inaccurately pictured newspaper work and misrepresented newspaper

men, the conditions under which they work and the methods they employ in getting news. But the protests were in vain and the newspaper man in the short story or in the novel was a creature never to be seen around a newspaper office. He used methods which, if actually resorted to, would have resulted in his being thrown out of the window, regardless of the floor at which the editor asked to have the elevator stopped. Today there is a third group of individuals who are giving to the layman an erroneous concept of newspaper work and newspaper men. This group is composed of motion picture scenario writers—or possibly the responsibility should be placed upon the director of the pictures.

In the average motion picture the reporter is depicted as a man who always runs, never walks, and who always has his coat pockets filled with paper and his vest pockets with pencils. At the least sign of a story he flashes his paper and pencil and proceeds to take notes rapidly. Especially is this true when he is interviewing someone. He gets his story and then runs or takes a taxicab back to the office. There he grabs a pile of paper and, with a pencil, writes desperately while editors seize each bit of copy as it is completed.

In a recent screen drama a reporter handed his notes to another with the instructions to hurry back to the office and write the story, while he swung onto the running board of an automobile to return to the "scene of action" to get more facts. Where, oh where, in the wide, wide world is there a reporter who can read another reporter's original stenographic notes?

The motion picture is throwing into disrepute the work of the copy reader. If any copy reader would hand to the chief of his desk such heads as are daily seen on the motion picture screen, there would be considerable news about acts of violence in newspaper offices. The same is true of news story leads. Such leads as appear on the screen are rarely to be seen in a newspaper.

Accuracy is the watchword of the newspaper office. It is a good word for the motion picture director to cultivate. A true portrayal of a newspaper office or a real characterization of a newspaper reporter would be far more effective than the pictures of long-haired men, who use their hands and arms and heads as if they couldn't speak. True, this is the silent drama, but the day has passed when the motion picture actor must point his direction before he proceeds to walk or run. Such acting is amateurish.

Many a newspaper man is a movie fan, but many a picture is ruined for him because he sees his own work and his own associates so misrepresented.

## Facing the Whiffletree.

**O**NE of the chapter letters for the July Quill contained the astonishing statement that two of the brothers—who, by the way, are selling aluminum ware this summer—intend to make journalism their life work.

If the correspondent's attitude is that of the entire chapter, there is something decidedly wrong. If the members do not understand that the first requirement for membership is the avowal of intention to follow writing as a profession, there is cause for readjustment in the national organization of Sigma Delta Chi.

If a man goes to college for several years with the idea that he is going to be a Munsey or a Pulitzer, and becomes a Sigma Delta Chi with that understanding, he is fully entitled to membership,

even though he never sets foot inside a bull pen after graduation, and sells life insurance all his active life.

But, again, if he goes through a liberal arts or commerce course with insurance in view, and dabbles in college journals as a pastime, there is no seat for him in the councils of the fraternity.

There are doubtless a couple of journalistic drones in every chapter. But when the intention of two men from the entire roll to enter journalism for life is worthy of remark in a chapter letter, there is something serious the matter.

## War Depletes Ranks of National Officers

**T**HREE of Sigma Delta Chi's five national officers are in the nation's service, and the executive functions have been concentrated in the hands of Secretary F. N. Church, Editor Lee A. White and Treasurer Pro Tem Ralph Ellis.

President Robert Lowry (Purdue) is in the officers' training camp at Leon Springs, Texas; Treasurer Dean W. Davis (Missouri) is qualifying for a commission at Fort Riley, Kan., and Vice-President Frank Mason (Ohio) has left Detroit on civilian service for the government.

Ellis, who will handle the fraternity's funds, is staff correspondent and circulation manager of the Lansing State Journal at Owosso, Mich. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1916.

## First with the Flag at Front in France

**R**AYMOND W. ANDERSON (Minnesota '16) has been in the American Ambulance Corps, with headquarters at Neuilly, France, since sailing from New York, Jan. 3 last. The St. Paul Pioneer Press of June 3 carried a full column article, with his picture, on the front page, with the heading, "St. Paul Man Is First At Front with U. S. Flag." The story related that Anderson had been promoted rapidly and recently had been placed in charge of a number of cars. His section was working in the reconquered French territory after the notable drive on St. Quentin and was the first unit to carry the American flag to the front, the liberated French cheering the Stars and Stripes just two weeks after the Americans had seen the Tri-color.

The unit on twenty-four hours' notice was ordered to the front from Paris. On the very day the United States decided to wage war they drove out of Paris.

"It gives one quite a thrill to look up into the face of an iron cross on the bottom of a plane," wrote Anderson. "It's a better sensation, however, to have the plane sail off without leaving any memos. Calculating whether the plane is exactly over one's head is a rather disagreeable and delicate job. An 89-degree angle is safety; a 90-degree angle is a sporting chance."

While at Minnesota Anderson was secretary of the Em club and later of Sigma Delta Chi. He was one of the department editors of the Minnesota Daily, a reporter on the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch, and after graduation was publicity manager and art critic of the Minneapolis park board. His home is at 1832 Carroll Ave., St. Paul.

—O. H. G.



# Among the Active Chapters

**K**ANSAS chapter was so depleted by war work that at the election May 16, every member of Sigma Delta Chi on the campus was elected to an office. The officers for next year are: Paul E. Flagg, president; Eugene Dyer, vice-president; E. Lawson May, secretary and corresponding secretary, and Harry Morgan, treasurer.

No new men have been pledged, the chapter intending to wait until next school year. Most of the men in the journalism department have withdrawn.

The Daily Kansan has had its share of Sigma Delta Chi on the executive board. The policy of the paper is to change the entire staff each month. Vernon Moore as business manager and Lawson May as editor of the "Plain Tales from the Hill" column represented the chapter the last month of school. Moore and Alfred Hill, the retiring secretary, have charge of the Summer Session Kansan, issued twice a week during the first six weeks of the summer, Moore as business manager and Hill editor.

Henry Pegues, Richard Treweeke and Wilbur Fischer are at Fort Riley learning the ways of a soldier. William Koester is at Fort Leavenworth studying for examination for a second lieutenant in the regular army.

Alfred Hill has enlisted as a private in headquarters company at Lawrence.

Four men have secured places on the Kansas City Star staff. They take the places left vacant by men gone to Ft. Riley. Darold Hartley is in the Kansas City, Kan., office of the Star; Harry Morgan, editor-elect of the 1918 "Jayhawker," is on the reportorial staff of the Times; Glendon Allvine is on the telegraph desk of the Star, and Clifford Butcher, former news editor of the Kansan, is reading exchanges for the Star. Charles Sweet (Kansas '16) is reading copy on the city desk of the same paper.

Cargill Sproull continues as city editor of the Lawrence Journal-World. Eugene Dyer works in Kansas City. Edwin Hullinger, who has been taking special work at Columbia, is in the U. P. office in Chicago this summer.

Michigan chapter pledged one night a week to work on the Intelligence Bureau established in the university to take charge of the government war service work among alumni and students.

The board in control of student publications selected Harold C. L. Jackson, '18, secretary of the chapter for this year and president for next year, managing editor of the Michigan Daily for next year; Allen Shoenfield, '18, managing editor of the Gargoyle, the humor magazine, and John Campbell, '18, business manager of the Inlander, the literary magazine.

Robert McDonald, '18, was news editor of The Daily for the latter part of the semester. As John C. B. Parker, this year's managing editor of The Daily, was at Fort Sheridan training camp, Jackson served in his place during the late spring months.

The spring election of officers for next year resulted as follows: President, H. C. L. Jackson; vice-president, R. T. McDonald; secretary, Harry M. Carey; treasurer, Harry Louis.

So far Michigan chapter has lost Herbert Garrison, '17, to the Great Lakes training camp, near Chicago, with the Naval Reserves; John C. B. Parker, and James Barrett, '17, to Fort Sheridan; J.

Pembroke Hart, '19, and H. Kirk White, '17, to government work in the East; Bruce Millar, to work on a farm, and L. S. Thompson, '18, to the ambulance corps. Nearly all Sigma Delta Chi men at Michigan are drilled in volunteer companies formed on the campus.

Eleven members of the Washington Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi have heard the call to national service and have responded in different ways. Walter Tlesley, '17, and Felix Embree, '17, are at the Presidio, in the Reserve Officers' Training corps; Anthony S. Corbiere, '18, is a member of the University of Washington Ambulance corps, which has been mustered into the federal service, and

expects to leave for the Western front some time during the summer; Edwin H. Badger, '18, who was with "F" Company, from the University of Washington, on the border last summer, has also left for the Presidio, but in the second group which was chosen from Seattle.

Thomas Dobbs, '18, who was elected to edit the University of Washington Daily during the opening semester of next year, enlisted for the Presidio training, but was not selected. He is now working under Senator A. A. Smith, Port Angeles publisher.

Ed Condlon, '17, has been recommended for a commission as second lieutenant in the marines and expects to leave soon for Mare Island. "Scotty" McDougall, '17, also with "F" Company on the border, is working in the Puget Sound Naval Station. Edward Swanson, '18, is enrolled in a course in radio telegraphy preparatory to enlisting as a wireless operator in the Naval Coast Defense Reserve. Dave Cleeland and George Pierrot, from the last group of pledges, heard the call for food production and are working in Alaskan canneries. H. Sherman Mitchell is editing the Anchorage (Alaska) Times. Edw. Severns and Curtis Shoemaker are helping map Alaskan waters. Matthew O'Connor is on the Seattle Star.

Paul Neill, a member of the graduating class, is reporting for the North Yakima Herald. Harold Allen is in the editorial department of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Stacy Jones has gone to the Detroit News. Edward Swanson is assistant sports editor of the Seattle Daily Times. He was elected to membership in the Seattle Press club at its last meeting.

The Washington chapter elected three honorary members late in the second semester. They are Cyril Arthur Player, feature writer on the Post-Intelligencer; Luther A. Huston, sports editor of the Times, and State Senator A. A. Smith, of Port Angeles.

E. E. Troxell, of the De Pauw chapter, has resigned from his position as assistant professor of journalism at the University of Washington to accept a full-time position as executive secretary of the Washington Newspaper association. His resignation took effect at the close of the school year. He will be a lecturer in the department, maintaining offices in the new building.

Purdue chapter announced the initiation of H. T. DeHart, '17; R. J. Krieger, '18; H. B. Collings, '18; H. S. Vaile, '18, and N. T. Crane, '19.

D. M. Smith has succeeded E. F. Ross as president, and K. T. Nessler has succeeded R. R. Jamison as secretary.

The general activity of the chapter, while somewhat disrupted by the war, did not suffer to a great extent. Purdue chapter has a good showing of men in the training camps as well as in food production.

Eight new men were initiated by Ohio State chapter prior to the dismissing of the university in June. The new men are E. Carson Blair, Luther Swaim, James G. Thurber, William P. Dumont, Newton A. Thatcher, E. Spencer Myers, W. Vaeth Brown and Dwight Curfman.

Things were in a chaotic state at the university during the last few weeks of school. In the latter part of May all male students, except seniors, in four col-

## Directory of Sigma Delta Chi Officers

**National President:** Robert C. Lowry, R.O. T. C., Leon Springs, Tex.

**National Vice-President** (in charge of expansion work and the employment bureau): Frank E. Mason, 395 Park Place, Milwaukee, Wis.

**National Secretary:** F. M. Church, 305 Merrick Ave., Detroit.

**National Treasurer (Pro Tem.):** Ralph Ellis, Owosso, Mich.

**Editor The Quill:** Lee A. White, 99 Maidenstone St., Detroit.

**Past National Presidents:** Laurence Sloan, The Tribune, New York; S. H. Lewis, The Lynden Tribune, Lynden, Wash.; Roger Steffan, The Durham Publications, Durham, N. C.

### CHAPTER SECRETARIES.

**DePauw:** William Tway, Greencastle, Ind.

**Kansas:** E. Lawson May, 104 Fourth East, Hutchinson, Kas.

**Michigan:** Harry M. Carey, 1617 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor.

**Denver:** G. S. Yetter, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, University Park, Denver, Colo.

**Washington:** Felix Embree, 5212 18th N. E., Seattle.

**Purdue:** K. T. Nessler, 503 State St., W. Lafayette, Ind.

**Ohio:** Ray Palmer, 1932 Waldeck Ave., Columbus.

**Wisconsin:** Waldo Arnold, 229 W. Gilman St., Madison.

**Iowa:** W. Earl Hall, Old Capitol Bldg., Iowa City.

**Illinois:** Zeon G. Gassman, 206 E. Green St., Champaign.

**Missouri:** R. P. Brandt, 500 College Ave., Columbia, Mo.

**Texas:** Silas Ragsdale, Delta Tau Delta House, Austin, Texas.

**Oregon:** James S. Sheehy, Box 208, Eugene.

**Oklahoma:** Fayette Copeland, Jr., Norman.

**Indiana:** Frank R. Elliott, 1209 Atwater Ave., Bloomington.

**Nebraska:** Max J. Baehr, 334 N. Fourteenth St., Lincoln.

**Iowa State:** A. R. Weed, 2817 West St., Ames.

**Stanford:** Miller McClintock, Stanford University, Cal.

**Montana:** James Fry, 431 Daly Ave., Missoula.

**Louisiana:** Dewey J. Sanchez, 852 St. Ferdinand St., Baton Rouge, La.

**Kansas State:** R. L. Foster, 930 Fremont St., Manhattan.

**Maine:** John P. Ramsay, Phi Kappa Psi House, Orono.

**Beloit:** Paul A. Pratt, The Round Table, Beloit, Wis.

**Minnesota:** Otis H. Godfrey, 1089 Lincoln Ave., St. Paul.

**Miami:** Max G. Dice, Delta Upsilon, Oxford, O.

**Knox:** Loomis C. Leedy, 446 N. Cedar St., Galesburg, Ill.

**Western Reserve:** Kenneth W. Akers, Grandview Ave., Cleveland Heights, O.

**Detroit Alumni:** James Devlin, Detroit, News.

**Seattle Alumni:** Will Simonds, Seattle Daily Times.

leges, including commerce and journalism, were dismissed without forewarning. Due to the fact that the majority of the men on the staff of the Ohio State Lantern were thus forced to withdraw from the university, it was necessary for women on the staff to issue the Lantern for two weeks.

The following men from the local chapter have enlisted: H. Parker Stewart, 1916-1917 business manager of the Lantern, reserve officers' training corps, Fort Benjamin Harrison; Jack Pierce, issue editor on the Lantern, and Elliot Nugent, assistant issue editor, "mosquito fleet."

Bert Chambers, a senior in the college of commerce and journalism was elected editor-in-chief of the Lantern for next year. W. Vaeth Brown, also a senior in commerce and journalism, will be business manager. Chambers was elected to membership in Sphinx, senior honorary society, as was Leon Friedman, sporting editor on the Lantern and a member of the fraternity. Elliot Nugent and Ray Palmer, both issue editors next year, were elected to Bucket and Dipper, junior honorary society.

At the last meeting of the fraternity Bert Chambers, Jefferson, Ashtabula county, Ohio, was elected president of the Ohio State chapter, and Ray Palmer, Martins Ferry, Ohio, was elected secretary.

Eight men were taken into the Wisconsin chapter at the May initiation held at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house. They are: Phil C. Bing, instructor in journalism; John I. Clark, associate editor of the Wisconsin Literary Magazine; Grant Erwin, now agricultural editor of the Milwaukee Journal; Harry H. Scott, editor of the 1919 Badger; Waldo Arnold, Lawrence Meyer, Walter O'Meara, Robert Herz, on the Cardinal and other student publications.

J. Willard F. Moore and Charles Johnston, members of Wisconsin chapter, are at Fort Sheridan taking the Officers' Reserve Training Course. Several other members intend to enter the second camp, which opens in August. Robert T. Herz took the intensive drill course offered by the University of Wisconsin and W. A. Sumner (Kansas State), editor of agricultural publications of the University of Wisconsin, drilled with the faculty. Practically all of the chapter members are doing work of one kind or another for the State Council of Defense.

The following officers were elected late in May: Russell R. Palmer, president; Paul F. Craneheld, vice-president; Waldo Arnold, secretary.

Five members of the Illinois chapter are in the first Illinois unit of the American Ambulance Field Service, which arrived in Bordeaux June 1. Milton G. Silver, Allen B. Brown, H. M. Page, Chris Gross and A. A. Dailey are the Sigma Delta Chis in the unit. A campaign, conducted by the Daily Illini, brought in more than \$7,000 to cover the necessary expenses in sending it.

Henry S. Beardsley and Marcus S. Goldman (Miami) have signed for the second unit which is being raised at the university, and expect to be called soon. Goldman received his master's degree this year.

K. DeWitt Pulcifer has been elected editor of the Daily Illini for the ensuing college year. Continuance of an eight-page six-column daily with Associated Press service is practically assured. Zean G. Gassmann has been appointed managing editor.

W. Carleton Healy is to edit the Siren, the university humorous magazine. He

succeeds S. M. Raphaelson, '17, and will have for his art editor A. A. Dailey.

George H. Bargh, '14, until recently with the Mount Vernon (Ill.) Register, visited the chapter late in May.

Three of the 11 active members of Oregon chapter, Milton A. Stoddard, '17; DeWitt Gilbert, '18, and Forest Piel, '19, have enlisted. Stoddard and Gilbert are members of the Second company, Oregon Coast artillery, while Piel is signed with the Eugene Ambulance corps, which expects to be in France by September.

Harold Say, Robert Case, Earl Murphy, Forest Piel and Percy Boatman, all '19s, were elected to membership early in May. Piel and Boatman were initiated the last week in May. Say and Case enlisted in the Second company, Coast artillery, O. N. G. In company with Murphy, they will be initiated in October, if they return to college.

Harold Hamstreet, '17, editor of the Oregon Emerald the past year, is at Sheridan, Ore., where he will aid his father in publishing the Sheridan Sun. Hamstreet was the first man to register in Yamhill county under the selective conscription act. He mailed his filled-in blank from Eugene several days before registration day and was listed as No. 1.

Maurice B. Hyde, '17, with Mrs. Hyde, left immediately after graduation for Stansfield, Ore., to take charge of a small country newspaper.

DeWitt Gilbert, president of the chapter the past year, was the first major student in journalism to be awarded honors. He is a charter member of the Order of the "H" club, which includes all the honor students in college.

Iowa State chapter, in spite of unsettled conditions, finished the school year in good shape.

On May 2 six men prominent in college journalism, were taken into the chapter. Three of these men, J. M. Van Houten, of Chicago, Ill.; E. S. Hurwich, of Waterloo, Iowa, and I. J. Cromer, of Clinton, Iowa, are from the staff of the Iowa State Student, while the other three, R. S. Pickford, of Nora Springs, Iowa; R. S. Paul, of Waterloo, Iowa, and Kirk Fox, of Arlington, Iowa, are from the staff of the Iowa Agriculturalist. After the initiation an informal lunch was held for the initiates at the College Inn.

At the final meeting, May 31, W. N. Donahue, business manager of the Student for the year 1916-17, and vice-president of the Iowa College Press Association, was elected president of the chapter; R. S. Pickford, editor of the Iowa Agriculturalist, vice-president; A. R. Weed, editor-elect of the Iowa State Student, secretary, and E. S. Hurwich, treasurer.

M. G. Kirkpatrick, an alumnus, has become associate editor of the Farm Journal at Philadelphia. L. S. Richardson left school in May to work on the editorial staff of Kimball's Dairy Farmer at Waterloo, Iowa.

Among those who have gone to serve their country are L. H. Barker, now in camp at Ft. Snelling, Minn., and J. H. McCarroll, who has joined the medical corps. Others have gone into food production.

The chapter hopes to have about ten men to continue the fraternal work next year.

War called nine members of the Stanford chapter across the Atlantic with the Stanford ambulance units, after a year which proved profitable to the members through a program of excellent speakers.

The ambulanciers are Geroid Robinson (president), Robert Donaldson, Lansing Warren, Herbert Marshutz, Sherwood Chapman, Ed Kneass, Burnet Wohlford, Dale Van Every and Harry Frantz. The last three were initiated at the closing meeting of the year.

Gordon Davis, president; Burnet Wohlford, treasurer, and Miller McClintoch, secretary, were the officers elected for next year.

Robert Griffin was granted a commission in the army. William Waterman and Joseph Cross are in government employ. McClintoch intends to return to college in the fall.

The chapter won honors in the elections for college literary offices. Burnet Wohlford was elected to succeed Lansing Warren as editor of the Chaparral, the comic magazine. Miller McClintoch will edit the Sequoia, the literary magazine. Wohlford was this year editor of the Quad, the yearbook.

Speakers who addressed the chapter included Robert L. Duffus (Stanford '10), editorial writer on the San Francisco Bulletin; Prof. Edward Krehbiel, department of modern European history; Prof. Harold Chapman Brown, philosophy department; Dr. Leonard von Noppen, Queen Wilhelmina lecturer at Columbia; Fremont Older, managing editor of the San Francisco Bulletin, and Prof. Alvin Saunders Johnson, of the economics department, who was elected an honorary member. Prof. Johnson is one of the editors of The New Republic.

Louisiana chapter lost its president, E. Stanley Ott, who joined the reserve officers' training corps of Fort Logan H. Roots, Little Rock, Ark. W. Frank Gladney, vice-president, succeeded him.

Vincent Moseley, a former student and now a law student at Harvard, has donated \$1,000 to the department of journalism for the establishment of a library.

Hinson went to the militia and Cain to the training camp. Sam Jones left the university in the early spring to work at De Ridder in the clerk of court's office.

Reed was chosen editor of the Reveille, the college weekly, for the 1917-18 session, with Sanchez as one of the two assistant editors.

Since the outbreak of the war, Maine chapter has sent all but one of its seniors and all but two of its juniors into the military.

William E. Nash, '17, of Concord, N. H., and Frank O. Stephens, '17, of Auburn, Me., are training in the reserve officers' training camp at Plattsburg, N. Y. John H. Magee has enrolled in the naval reserve as boatswain mate, while John F. Ramsay, '18, of Portland, is enlisted as commissary steward in the same branch. Lloyd J. Edgerley is serving at Rockland, in the coast patrol as signal quartermaster. Weston B. Haskell, '17, of Auburn, is working for the Turner Center Creamery Company. The chapter here has elected its new officers and made tentative plans for the coming year. Arrangements have been made, in case none of the men returns to school, to keep up the chapter through some centrally located member.

John Michael O'Connell, '18, is with the Bangor Daily Commercial.

By unanimous action of the executive council, the Chicago chapter of Sigma Delta Chi was permitted to relinquish its charter, which is suspended but not revoked. Reports upon the condition of the chapter, rendered by Frederick Kuh, secretary, and by alumni revealed that the admission of the University of



Chicago was ill advised because of the scant sympathy with instruction in journalism evidenced by the faculty. The decline of the chapter was unfortunate but inevitable, under the circumstances, in the view of the national officers. Altered conditions "on the Midway" may make possible a future restoration of the charter.

Five men from the chapter at Beloit have entered war service. Anderson, '17, is in coast defense work; Huffman, '18, and Hanscom, '17, are doing ambulance work in France, and Pratt, '18, is with a radio company.

Harold C. Philbrook, '17, the latest Beloit Sigma Delta Chi to enter the Beloit Radio corps, while en route to join his unit was arrested and forced to spend a night in jail because he was unable to show a registration card. As he was already in government service he was not obliged to register.

During commencement week the chapter gave the returning alumni members of the chapter a reunion breakfast at the Hotel Hilton. Prof. Marion H. Hedges, one of the founders of Sigma Delta Chi at De Pauw, but for the past four years in the English department at Beloit, was a guest.

Minnesota postponed her election of officers until next year. Neil Swanson, of the Minneapolis Tribune, gave the address at the Sigma Delta Chi initiation banquet, which was held at the Rogers Hotel, Minneapolis, April 28. Four neophytes were put through the ceremony. The new members are John Boyle, '18; Harold Lund, '18; Gordon Bates, '18, and Walter Cleveland, '19.

Minnesota held chapter meetings weekly throughout the year until spring, when meetings were held bi-weekly. The meetings were usually luncheons on Tuesday noons in one of the banquet rooms of the Minnesota Union. Nineteen active members were enrolled. Every member was engaged at times during the year in writing on one of the university publications.

Godfrey Eyler, '18, plans to take the next army officers' examinations at Fort Leavenworth, and will then be in Cleveland and New York.

Matt H. Saari, '17, has been a regular contributor to the Farmer throughout the school year and is at present starting a newspaper in the northern part of Minnesota. Saari was department editor of the Minnesota Daily and the Minnesota Farm Magazine until he had to give that work up and devote his time to managing the department of the agricultural periodical.

Eugene Hanson and Robert Benepe, '17, were among the first of 120 Minnesota men to join the marines. Hanson was editor of the Minnehaha and Benepe of the Minnesota Magazine.

Burt Markham, '18, has enlisted in the quartermaster department of the army. His brother, James Markham, '18, left school to crop a farm near Alma City, Minn.

Don Timerman, '17, president of Minnesota chapter and of the Y. M. C. A. and captain in the cadet corps, was one of the ten honor graduates from the military department appointed to second lieutenancies in the army and is now in the reserve officers' camp at Ft. Snelling.

Harold Lund, '18, was recently elected editor of the Minnesota Daily. Lund expects to spend part of the summer as a member of the university Y. M. C. A. teams.

Ralph Beal, '18, was business manager of the 1918 Golden Jubilee Gopher. He was also chosen academic representative

on the all-university council. He recently gave an address before the chapter on "Special Industrial Editions for Country Newspapers," which was in part an account of his own experiences the last two years.

James Lamb, '18, who went last winter from the Minneapolis Tribune, where he had been since graduation, to the position of assistant secretary to Mayor Van Lear, recently spoke to the chapter on "The Reporter in Politics."

Norman Holen, '17, retiring editor of the Minnesota Daily, has entered a Minneapolis bank for the summer. He plans to combine banking and newspaper work in one of the smaller Minnesota towns.

War overturned Western Reserve with more thoroughness than it did most of the other universities, and the Reserve Weekly, edited by Ralph D. Kern, suspended three weeks early.

Kern joined Ambulance Company No. 4, of Cleveland, expecting to correspond for the Cleveland Press while in service. George D. Finnie joined Troop A, of Cleveland, and was released to try for the reserve officers' training camp. He passed the examination, but was not called for this camp. Benjamin G. Oberlin is at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. George W. Perry is with the Lakeside Hospital Unit No. 4, now in France.

The annual initiation was held in June. The initiates were Victor Morgan, editor-in-chief of the Cleveland Press; Amos Parrish, Jr., of the Cleveland News, an alumnus of Reserve and one who helped to build up good journalism at the college; Ward H. Parry, an alumnus who helped materially in the success of the Weekly last year; Kenneth W. Akers, '18, editor-in-chief and manager of the "Sketlioi," the annual of Western Reserve, and David H. Dietz, '18, associate editor on the Reserve Weekly.

New officers are: President, Harry C. Hahn; vice-president, Benjamin G. Oberlin; secretary, Kenneth W. Akers.

## Dumpings from Purist Junk Carts

*Continued from page 5*

wants an authoritative study of the question of English usage will find the most useful Lounsbury's "The Standard of Usage in English" (in particular, the chapter on "Schoolmastering the English Language"), Jespersen's "Growth and Structure of the English Language," and Krapp's "Modern English; Its Growth and Present Use."

## Honored for Valor

Huntley Dupre (Ohio State '16), who for several months was engaged in work for the Y. M. C. A. among the German and Austrian prisoners in France, was honored this year by having the Makio, Ohio State's yearbook, dedicated to him. The unusual dedication met with general campus approval.

Since the declaration of war by the United States, Dupre has been at association work in Paris. He was issue editor of the Lantern and president and general secretary of the university Y. M. C. A., and was one of the two men sent from Ohio State to France by the international committee of the Y. M. C. A.

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## The Journalist's Creed

**I** BELIEVE in the profession of journalism.

I believe that the public journal is a public trust; that all connected with it are, to the full measure of their responsibility, trustees for the public; that acceptance of lesser service than the public service is betrayal of this trust.

I believe that clear thinking and clear statement, accuracy and fairness are fundamental to good journalism.

I believe that a journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true.

I believe that suppression of the news for any consideration other than the welfare of society is indefensible.

I believe that no one should write as a journalist what he would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own pocketbook is as much to be avoided as bribery by the pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may not be escaped by pleading another's instruction or another's dividends.

I believe that advertising, news and editorial columns should alike serve the best interests of the readers; that a single standard of helpful truth and clearness should prevail for all; that the supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.

I believe that the journalism which succeeds best—and best deserves success—fears God and honors man; is stoutly independent, unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power; constructive, tolerant, but never careless; self controlled, patient; always respectful of its readers, but always unafraid; is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed by the appeal of privilege or the clamor of the mob; seeks to give every man a chance and, as far as law and honest wages and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic, while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world comradeship; is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world.

—Walter Williams.